

NEWS RELEASE

Barley Varieties
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ROBUST CONTINUES AS TOP BARLEY VARIETY

Robust remained the number one planted barley variety in North Dakota for 2002, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Robust has held this position for 17 out of the last 18 years. Lacey claimed second place this year by surpassing Conlon, which dropped to third. Stander maintained fourth place and Legacy entered the rankings in fifth this year. These five barley varieties accounted for 88.5 percent of the planted acres and were recommended by the American Malting Barley Association (AMBA) for malting and brewing in 2002.

Haybet, Bowman, and Stark were the top feed varieties, and ranked seventh, eighth, and tenth overall. Together they comprised 4.8 percent of all barley acres.

North Dakota continued to rank first in barley planted acreage in the United States, with 32 percent of the nation's total. Planted acres in North Dakota were 1.6 million in 2002, up from 1.5 million in 2001. In 2002, there were 5.05 million planted acres in the United States compared to 4.97 million in 2001.

The data in this report is based on results of a June survey conducted by USDA's North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service of over 700 barley producers. The AMBA and the North Dakota Barley Council provided supporting funds for the survey.

Robust continued to be the most popular barley variety in 2002 by a substantial margin over all other varieties in North Dakota. It accounted for 59.2 percent of the total barley acres planted, but down from 81.2 percent last year.

Lacey ranked second in 2002, up from tenth last year. It represented 13.4 percent of the total barley acres planted, up from 0.6 percent last year.

Conlon ranked third in 2002, down from second last year. However, it represented 10.8 percent of the total barley acres planted, up from 5.5 percent last year.

Haybet was the most popular feed variety in 2002, seventh overall. Just under 30,000 acres were planted this year.

Bowman was the second most popular feed variety in 2002, eighth overall. Just over 28,000 acres were planted this year.

Stark moved down to the third most popular feed barley variety and ranked number ten overall. Just over 18,000 acres were planted this year.

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